

NewsCOR

Raleigh's Weekly Newsgram



RED HAT SELECTS RALEIGH AS ITS GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS

The World's Leading Provider Of Open Source Solutions Brings Its Headquarters To Downtown Raleigh

The City of Raleigh announced during a press conference hosted by Mayor Nancy McFarlane that Red Hat, Inc., the world's leading provider of open source solutions, is making downtown Raleigh, North Carolina its new global headquarters. Red Hat has over 4,300 employees in more than 70 offices in 30 countries, over 600 of those are currently employed in Raleigh. The company has plans to nearly double that number in Raleigh with the creation of an additional 540 jobs over the next nine years. Red Hat has chosen 100 East Davie Street as its global headquarters.

Red Hat has long been at the forefront of a movement toward the adoption of open source technology. With the announcement, the City of Raleigh seeks to establish a growing ecosystem of partners and providers around the open source leader and to bolster Raleigh's reputation as a leading open source community. The City of Raleigh is also planning to implement open source philosophies and strategies in an effort to make collaboration and transparency with the community a priority.



"Open source is a philosophy that has had a widespread impact both in creating software and in creating culture. Collaboration, transparency, and openness represent the future of our business community—helping to foster a climate for innovation and business growth," said Mayor McFarlane at the January 6 press conference.

In Raleigh, both open source technology and an open-minded community are influencing areas from city government to creative entrepreneurship. The City is also applying core open source principles such as transparency and participation to government itself. Working to implement collaboration tools and vehicles such as social media and citizen-led forums to discuss issues such as transportation and city planning, the City is demonstrating a commitment to open collaboration. Earlier this year, the City also hosted its first CityCamp Raleigh event, which brought together a group of residents committed to reimagining the way the web, applications, technology, and participation shape Raleigh's future. CityCamp encourages the use and creation of open source solutions for communities around the country. An additional example of the City's creative appeal and open approach is SPARKcon, an event that is held in downtown Raleigh and showcases local creativity, talent, and ideas. Founded in 2006, the annual event employs an open source organizational approach to empower diverse creative thinkers to be inspiring community leaders.

From an open source technology standpoint, Red Hat has been an invaluable strategic partner in the city's transformation of its IT infrastructure from one based on proprietary platforms to one based on open source and commodity platforms. Since 2007 the

- Red Hat Selects Raleigh As Its Global Headquarters
- Supportive Housing Registration Program Effective Feb. 29
- City Council Selects Professional Services Consultant For Hydroelectric Facility At Falls Lake Dam
- Citizens Invited To Public Meetings On Planned Hydroelectric Facility At Falls Lake Dam
- City Council Endorses Old Warehouse Building To Be Rail Station Site
- City Council Extends Boundaries For Downtown Loan Program
- Inaugural Meetings Set For Two New Citizens Advisory Councils
- City Of Raleigh Police Department Receives "Major" Gift
- Charging Options Abound For Electric Car Owners
- Four New Appointees Made To City Boards
- City To Observe Milk Day On Jan. 16; Trash Collection Schedule Not Affected
- Mt Hope And O'Rourke Cemeteries Open
- Applications Being Accepted For Raleigh Neighborhood College
- City Of Raleigh Begins 37th Fire Academy
- City Of Raleigh's Office Of Sustainability Offering BPI Building Envelope Course
- Former Portland Mayor, Oregon Congressman To Be Guest Speaker At Lecture Series
- Solar Array At Neuse River Wastewater Treatment Plant Energized
- City Of Raleigh's Office Of Sustainability Offering Free Sustainable Landscaping Course
- City Of Raleigh's Annual Small Business Expo Set For Jan. 25 At Southeast Raleigh High School
- Council Forwards Jones Franklin Road Study To January 17 Joint Meeting
- City Of Raleigh Offers Leadership Classes
- Informational Public Meeting On Historic Overlay District Set For January 18
- City Collecting Used Grease, Cooking Oil
- City Of Raleigh Collecting Christmas Trees With Weekly Yard Waste Collection
- Follow The City Of Raleigh On Twitter & Facebook
- Traffic Alerts

City of Raleigh has used Red Hat technology to run the city's most critical business systems. This software has led to efficiencies for applications such as financials, human resources, geographic information systems, and many more. In addition, the cost savings the City was able to realize with Red Hat far outweighed the options presented by other technology providers.

"We'd like to thank the City of Raleigh and Wake County for all the support in making downtown Raleigh home for Red Hat's headquarters. Combining the Triangle's renowned educational resources with the energy and culture of downtown Raleigh made this location ideal for both Red Hat and our associates," said Jim Whitehurst, CEO at Red Hat. "We are excited to utilize all of the downtown amenities. From hotels to event venues, restaurants and recreation, downtown Raleigh will suit our active company and culture. We are looking forward to continuing our partnership with the City of Raleigh and Wake County on further strategy for open source philosophy and technology implementations."

Raleigh has received numerous accolades for its culture and business climate. Raleigh was recently named America's Best City by Businessweek.com and Raleigh has topped Forbes list of Best Places for Business and Careers four out of the last five years.

About Red Hat

Red Hat, the world's leading provider of open source solutions and an S&P 500 company, is headquartered in Raleigh, NC with more than 70 offices spanning the globe. Red Hat provides high-quality, affordable technology with its operating system platform, Red Hat Enterprise Linux, together with cloud, virtualization, management, storage and service-oriented architecture (SOA) solutions, including Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization and JBoss Enterprise Middleware. Red Hat also offers support, training and consulting services to its customers worldwide.

Learn more: <http://www.redhat.com>.

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING REGISTRATION PROGRAM EFFECTIVE FEB. 29

The City of Raleigh's supportive housing registration program goes into effect Feb. 29. The registration program will enable staff to establish a data base that can be cross-referenced with police reports and zoning violation data to determine if supportive housing generates identifiable problems requiring a regulatory change. The City Council directed staff to prepare a report in one year on issues identified by staff and recommendations for text changes to address the problems.



Council also directed staff to establish an annual registration fee of \$76.00.

Supportive housing includes emergency housing, transitional housing that provides structured programming for up to two years, and permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities; including individuals with chronic mental illness, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, and HIV/AIDS.

CITY COUNCIL SELECTS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONSULTANT FOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC FACILITY AT FALLS LAKE DAM

The Raleigh City Council voted unanimously Jan. 3 to select Black & Veatch to provide professional services for a planned hydroelectric facility at Falls Lake Dam. The City administration will negotiate a contract with the Charlotte firm.

The City received eight proposals for the professional services contract. City staff evaluated the proposals and selected three finalists. The finalists were interviewed and staff recommended the City Council select Black & Veatch for the contract.

Last September, the City Council voted unanimously to authorize City staff to file documents with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) stating the City's intent to develop a hydroelectric facility at the dam. FERC has awarded the City of Raleigh a preliminary permit to conduct studies and prepare a license application for a facility to harness hydroelectric power from Falls Lake Dam. The lake is a major source of drinking water for the area. A preliminary report concluded that a hydroelectric facility at Falls Lake Dam is feasible under certain economic conditions.

CITIZENS INVITED TO PUBLIC MEETINGS ON PLANNED HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY AT FALLS LAKE DAM

The City of Raleigh will host two public meetings and a site visit on the proposed Falls Lake Dam hydroelectric facility. The meetings and site visit will all be held on Jan. 23.

Last September, the City Council voted unanimously to authorize City staff to file documents with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) stating the City's intent to develop a hydroelectric facility at the dam. FERC has awarded the City of Raleigh a preliminary permit to conduct studies and prepare a license application for a facility to harness hydroelectric power from Falls Lake Dam. The lake is a major source of drinking water for the area. A preliminary report concluded that a hydroelectric facility at Falls Lake Dam is feasible under certain economic conditions. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operates the dam.

To update citizens and other interested parties on the planned hydroelectric facility project, the City of Raleigh will have a joint

meeting, site visit and public meeting on Jan. 23. The joint meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to noon in the Training Room at the E.M. Johnson Water Treatment Plant, located at 10301 Falls of Neuse Road. Following the joint meeting will be a site visit at the Falls Lake Dam from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. The site visit will commence at the Falls Lake Dam Visitors Center on Falls Dam Road. An overview of the project, including the licensing process, and other information will be provided at both the joint meeting and the site visit. Also, comments from the public will be accepted.

For those who cannot attend the joint meeting and site visit, the City will host a public meeting on the project beginning at 7 p.m. on Jan. 23 in the Training Room at the E.M. Johnson Water Treatment Plant. A project overview will be provided and public comment will be accepted at the public meeting.

At its meeting on Jan. 3, the City Council voted unanimously to select Black & Veatch to provide professional services for the proposed Falls Lake Dam hydroelectric facility. The City administration will negotiate a contract with the firm.

CITY COUNCIL ENDORSES OLD WAREHOUSE BUILDING TO BE RAIL STATION SITE

A former warehouse building on the west end of Martin Street near railroad tracks in Downtown Raleigh should be retrofitted to accommodate a new rail station, the City Council determined Jan. 3. Council members voted unanimously to endorse the site, upholding a recommendation from the City's Passenger Rail Task Force.

The vacant warehouse, called the Dillon Viaduct Building, would house the train station component of Raleigh's proposed Union Station. Built in the 1940s, the former Dillon Supply warehouse is owned by the Triangle Transit Authority. The North Carolina Department of Transportation is leading a study to determine the feasibility of using the warehouse to accommodate the proposed rail station. If it is deemed feasible, the renovated warehouse would be first-phase development of the Union Station facility, which is expected to further enhance economic development on Downtown's west end.

Last October, Raleigh voters approved a \$40 million transportation bond issue that included \$3 million in improvements for the planned Union Station multimodal complex. State and federal funds totaling \$30 million would also be used for the first phase of the facility.

The existing Amtrak Station on Cabarrus Street can no longer adequately serve an increasing number of rail passengers and must be replaced with a larger facility. Raleigh's proposed Union Station would be a hub located in Downtown. It would connect Raleigh's multiple transportation modes, including Capital Area Transit bus service; Triangle Transit's regional bus service; long-distance bus service (Greyhound); Amtrak rail service; the Silver



Star, Carolinian and Piedmont rail services; and future local and regional rail transit, including high-speed rail services. Union Station would be among the first facilities in the state to have a high-level platform that allows passengers to board trains without the need for steps.

Last month, the City's Passenger Rail Task Force voted unanimously to send a letter to the City Council endorsing the Viaduct Building site for the new rail station. A copy of the letter is attached. The City Council appointed the 11-member Passenger Rail Task Force to work with City staff and to advise the City Council on several specific issues related to the future provision of passenger rail service to Raleigh, be it locally, regionally, or long-distance.

CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS BOUNDARIES FOR DOWNTOWN LOAN PROGRAM

The Raleigh City Council on Jan. 3, approved the extension of the boundaries for the Downtown Loan Program to include primary and secondary retail streets.

Previously, the program was only available to businesses located on Fayetteville Street. The original purpose of the loan program was to focus private investment to complement the City's capital investment along Fayetteville Street. The concentration of older buildings in Downtown Raleigh requires significant costs to potential tenants or owners to meet the requirements of building codes.

The program will include portions of Dawson Street, Glenwood Avenue, Hargett Street, Martin Street, Davie Street, Fayetteville Street, Blount Street, Person Street and designated at primary retail Street in the Comprehensive Plan. Designated secondary retail streets include portions of Harrington Street, West Street, McDowell Street, Dawson Street, Salisbury Street, Wilmington Street, West Morgan Street, Hillsborough Street and Peace Street. The program is designed to create an incentive to new and/or expanding Downtown businesses and commercial property owners seeking to improve properties. To be eligible for the loan program commercial property owners and business owners must demonstrate management ability and experience. Qualified applicants must show they are unable to secure financing from financial institutions for the amount being requested from this program. To date the program has made three loans to area businesses. One of the loans has been fully repaid. Currently \$200,000 is available.

For more information, contact Luther Williams, City of Raleigh Business Assistance Program at 996-4278 or Paul Reimel, economic development manager, Downtown Raleigh Alliance at 832-1231.

INAUGURAL MEETINGS SET FOR TWO NEW CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCILS

Residents of northern Raleigh will soon organize two new Citizens Advisory Councils. The new groups are Midtown and Atlantic.

This is the first major change in Citizens Advisory Council boundaries since the City of Raleigh established them 38 years ago. Residents of the new Citizens Advisory Council areas are invited to participate in the meetings. Residents who are unsure whether their neighborhoods are within the new Citizens Advisory Councils can call the City of Raleigh Community Services Department at 996-6100.

- **Midtown Citizens Advisory Council** unites neighborhoods in the North Hills area. It will hold its organizational meeting at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 12, at Trinity Baptist Church, 4815 Six Forks Road. The new Citizens Advisory Council will encompass most of the area now served by Falls of Neuse and Six Forks Citizens Advisory Councils, which will cease to exist.
- **Atlantic Citizens Advisory Council**, representing neighborhoods along Atlantic Avenue to the east of Midtown, will meet 7:00 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 16, at Brentwood Park, 3315 Vinson Court. Atlantic Citizens Advisory Council takes in parts of Falls of Neuse, Six Forks and Northeast Citizens Advisory Councils.

Later this year, a third new Citizens Advisory Council will be carved from Northeast Citizens Advisory Council, with Interstate 540 as the dividing line. An organizational meeting for this Citizens Advisory Council has not yet been set.

The changes come in response to growth and development patterns that have taken place since Raleigh created Citizens Advisory Councils in 1974. The redrawn boundaries will bring together adjacent neighborhoods that have issues in common. With the split of Northeast Citizens Advisory Council later this year, the number of Citizens Advisory Councils will grow to 19.

The Raleigh City Council approved the boundary changes in April 2011 on the recommendation of the Raleigh Citizens Advisory Council. The Raleigh Citizens Advisory Council is made up of the leaders of individual Citizens Advisory Councils. As a part of the change, several small adjustments were made in the groups' CAC boundary lines last year.

The Citizens Advisory Councils provide a communications link between City of Raleigh government and residents. Each Citizens Advisory Council elects its own officers and determines its own



meeting schedule. All residents age 18 or older are entitled to vote at their CAC meetings. At the meetings, residents share information about a variety of community issues, including development and rezoning proposals. The outcome of these votes is shared with decision-makers in the City government.

To learn more about Citizens Advisory Councils, visit the City of Raleigh website www.raleighnc.gov/cac or call the City of Raleigh Community Services at 996-6100. To sign up for CAC newsletters, go to www.surveymonkey.com/CACnewsletters.

CITY OF RALEIGH POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES "MAJOR" GIFT

On Jan. 3, the Raleigh City Council accepted the donation of a seven-year old Painted/Draft horse from Mrs. Martha Burke of Upperville, Va., for the City of Raleigh Police Department's mounted patrol.

The horse's original name was Parker but the Raleigh Police Department has renamed him Major. Major's color and markings are from the paint horse side and his size from the draft horse. Major stands 17.1 hands high and is a gelding. The draft cross horses work out well for police work because they are large and intimidating but at the same time they usually have a laid-back disposition and are well mannered. .

Mrs. Burke purchased Major for her husband because he wanted a large horse since he was a large man. Mr. Burke was just learning to ride and Major didn't have much training when Mrs. Burke purchased him. Mrs. Burke wanted Major to go to a good home and she knew he had a lot of potential but she did not have the knowledge or experience to train him. Ms. Burke knew that donating him to the Raleigh Police Department for police work would be perfect for him.

Training to incorporate Major into the mounted patrol is divided into three parts. First, the department focuses on basic riding skills. The mounted patrol rides English, which usually requires direct contact with the horses mouth and bit at all times. Mounted Patrol officers need the horses to walk, trot, and canter on a loose rein because they can't always devote both hands to riding and controlling the horse. According to Officer Randy Byrd of the Raleigh Police Department mounted patrol, "We actually spend

a lot of time training our horses to work off of leg cues so we can keep our hands free.” Backing, sidepassing, and turning in a tight circle are a crucial necessity and are also part of the Carolina Mounted Police Association’s certification course. The intent is to have Major certified by this summer.

Secondly, the mounted patrol officer works on police specific tasks such as crowd control techniques, riding in formations, making an arrest from the saddle, foot chases, and placing parking tickets on cars from the saddle. Major will be exposed and trained to any situation that officers might encounter on patrol. and we focus on remaining in the saddle and utilizing the horse as best we can while keeping the horse and the rider safe.

The third part of the training is sensory work with the horse. This includes exposing the horse to gun shots, blue lights and sirens, crime-scene tape, road flares, tarps, traffic cones, and barrels. Officers try to expose the horse to anything they might encounter on patrol so the horse is somewhat familiar with it and is not frightened by it. This particular part of the training builds a trust between the police officer and the horse which is as equally important. It takes approximately six to eight months to train a horse for police work depending on the horses ability to learn new techniques and the prior training he has received.

When the mounted patrol obtains a new horse, there is a 60 day trial period to see how the horse is going to adapt to police work.

CHARGING OPTIONS ABOUND FOR ELECTRIC CAR OWNERS

A few years ago when electric cars became a technological reality, naysayers had one quick way to win an argument over why the cars would never replace their gas-powered brothers: Where on earth will you charge the things? Yes, the silent motors, the carbon dioxide-free emissions, and being free from “Big Oil” are fine. But when their owners had travelled as far as their lithium-ion batteries would take them, how do you get home? It was a good argument.

It was such a good argument that the Rocky Mountain Institute, Advanced Energy, and Progress Energy joined forces and selected three cities to blaze the trail forward for the electric car. Raleigh, Indianapolis and Portland, Ore. were selected to participate in Project Get Ready to identify and work through any challenges that may stall the adoption of the emerging electric vehicle transportation efforts. After three years of collaboration with numerous partners, the City received a number of grants making the installation of the infrastructure possible. By providing the infrastructure, potential electric car buyers would be encouraged to make the switch with the knowledge that their new vehicle would not be a square peg looking for a round hole.

So far, the City of Raleigh’s efforts are paying off. Last week, the final touches were put on the 29th charging station in Raleigh. Eighteen of the stations are available to the public and 11 are in place for City-owned vehicles. Only seven of the charging stations

are currently online but the others will be energized soon. Last year, the seven stations were used 96 times. Those charges offset more than 19 tons of carbon dioxide in vehicle exhaust.

“We’re seeing the stations get used a lot,” said Lynn Graham, programs manager for the City of Raleigh’s Office of Sustainability. “We have a data collection system that lets us monitor them.”

Graham expects to see the numbers rise in 2012 as more cars are purchased. One of the factors that slowed the implementation of electric cars was the lack of a standard universal plug. The universal plug has been designed and more cars are being produced with the new standard.

“As we understand it, there are quite a few cars on order from the manufacturers,” she said. “And for people in Raleigh, they’ll have any number of options. You still have to pay to park, but it’s free to charge.”

The 18 charging stations came at a remarkably low cost for the City. Grants from the State of North Carolina Department Commerce’s Energy Division required a \$125,000 matching grant. But other funds were available from the North Carolina Solar Center’s Clean Fuels Alternative Transportation grant, and the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. General Electric even donated four of the charging stations, requiring the City to only pay for their installation. Currently, charging stations are operational at:

- 285 Hargett Street (two stations);
- 215 Cabarrus Street;
- 128 W. South Street in the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts deck;
- 1 E. Lenoir Street in the Marriott Hotel underground deck;
- 429 S. Wilmington Street in the City Center deck; and,
- 115 S. Wilmington Street at the Wilmington Station deck,

Additional stations are in place and should be collecting data soon

- 112 S. McDowell Street (two stations);
- 11408 Raven Ridge Road (two stations) at the Annie Louise Wilkerson Nature Preserve Park;
- 231 Fayetteville Street;
- 950 Peterson Drive at the Walnut Creek Wetlands Center;
- 5910 Whittier Drive at Optimist Park;
- 2401 Wade Avenue at Jaycee Park; and,
- 630 Beacon Lake Drive (two stations) at Wilders Grove.



FOUR NEW APPOINTEES MADE TO CITY BOARDS

During its meeting on Jan. 3, four new appointees were named to City of Raleigh commissions.

Jean Spooner was appointed to the Environmental Awards Program 2012 Jury as a member of the professional scientific community. Roula Qubain and Will Hooker were appointed to the jury as at-large members. Stacey Carless was appointed to the Raleigh Transit Authority.

Raleigh residents have the opportunity to volunteer their services to the City to serve without pay on various boards, commissions and committees. Some of these groups are established in the City Charter. Others are created by the Mayor or City Council to perform special, limited functions.

Where not specified by law, it is the City's policy to appoint citizens to serve two-year terms with a maximum of six consecutive years of service on any specific board or commission. Citizens may serve on no more than two commissions, boards or committees concurrently.

For more information, visit the City's website at www.raleighnc.gov and enter "boards, commissions and committees" in the search box.

CITY TO OBSERVE MLK DAY ON JAN. 16; TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE NOT AFFECTED

The City of Raleigh's administrative offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 16 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Emergency police, fire and rescue services may be reached by calling 9-1-1.

Because no residential collections are scheduled on Mondays, the regular schedule for garbage, recycling and yard waste will not be affected. The City's Yard Waste Center will be closed on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, but will operate on a regular schedule the remainder of the week.

Capital Area Transit buses will not operate on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Regular bus service resumes Jan. 17.

MT HOPE AND O'RORKE CEMETERIES OPEN

Two of the City of Raleigh's historic cemeteries are now open to the public. O'Rorke-Catholic Cemetery and Mt. Hope Cemetery experienced significant tree and headstone/monument damage from the April 16th tornadoes. Hazardous tree work and debris removal is complete in both cemeteries allowing public access, but headstone/monument repairs are on-going.

City Cemetery remains closed and will reopen soon. Park staff is continuing to remove trip hazards to ensure patrons have a safe visit.

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR RALEIGH NEIGHBORHOOD COLLEGE

Raleigh residents can get an inside look at the City of Raleigh's services and programs by attending Raleigh Neighborhood College, a free series of classes to be offered in the spring.

Applications are now being accepted for the Neighborhood College, which will be held from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, March 1-May 24. Most classes will take place at William Peace University with some field trips to City of Raleigh facilities. To apply online, go to www.surveymonkey.com/neighborhoodcollege or print out an application from the City's website at www.raleighnc.gov (search "Neighborhood College.")

Raleigh Neighborhood College is offered twice a year, in the spring and fall, with presentations by representatives of each City department. It offers participants the tools to become actively involved in neighborhood and community organizations. Many graduates of the college go on to become leaders of Citizens Advisory Councils and neighborhood organizations.

Enrollment is limited to 25 participants to make sure classes are lively and students have a chance to interact with City officials.

The City of Raleigh Community Services Department started Neighborhood College in 2002. Its 19th session was held in fall 2011.

Raleigh Neighborhood College helps participants develop a connection to the City, said Jeff Murison, executive director of the Hillsborough Street Community Service Corp. who attended the college's fall 2011 session. "It was a great program to immerse myself in the City and really learn the basic nuts-and-bolts things that you would pick up in a lifetime of living somewhere."

To learn more about Raleigh Neighborhood College, call the City of Raleigh Community Services Department at 996-6100.

R A L E I G H
RNC
N E I G H B O R H O O D
C O L L E G E

CITY OF RALEIGH BEGINS 37TH FIRE ACADEMY

The City of Raleigh Fire Department's 37th Fire Fighter Recruit Academy began Friday Dec. 30..

Twenty-nine future Raleigh Fire Fighters reported to duty at Keeter Training Center located at 105 Keeter Center Drive near Downtown. The recruits will graduate from the 28-week academy on July 12. They will receive certifications as Emergency Medical Technicians, North Carolina Fire Fighter Level I and II, and North Carolina Hazardous Materials Operations Plus. In addition, they will receive training on technical rescue, hazardous materials operations, fireground procedures, high-rise operations, rapid intervention teams, accountability systems, safety companies, engine/ladder company operations, and fire fighter safety/survival.

Emergency Medical Technician instruction comprises the first eight weeks, along with the physical fitness training that continues through the entire academy. By the end of their training, the recruits will have participated in live fire burns at the Wake County Fire Training Center at Central Carolina Community College in Sanford, and fire fighter survival training at Gaston Community College in Gastonia.

Starting pay for Raleigh Fire Fighters is \$32,673 annually.

CITY OF RALEIGH'S OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY OFFERING BPI BUILDING ENVELOPE COURSE

The City of Raleigh's Office of Sustainability is offering a Building Performance Institute building envelope course Thursday, Feb. 16 through Sunday, Feb. 19.

The Green Building Training Program offered by the City of Raleigh is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, commonly referred to as the stimulus package.

The Building Performance Institute Building Envelope course focuses on a building's thermal and pressure boundaries to find ways to enhance the home's envelope through insulation and air-sealing techniques. Continuing education credit will be available to those who complete this course. This is a specialty course which requires the Building Performance Institute Analyst certification as a pre-requisite.

To be eligible for the program, a participant must provide proof that he or she works, lives or does business within the City of Raleigh. There is a \$25.00 refundable seat reservation fee for the course. The \$25.00 will be returned upon completion of the course. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and will begin Jan. 10 through Feb. 6 The City of Raleigh Sustainability

Office offers assistance that targets the construction industry by offering training for the emerging Green Economy Workforce Development

For more information about the Green Building Training Program, to view the course calendar, or to register for the courses, visit the City of Raleigh website at, <http://www.raleighnc.gov/environment/content/AdminServSustain/Articles/EconomicsandGreenJobs.html>.

FORMER PORTLAND MAYOR, OREGON CONGRESSMAN TO BE GUEST SPEAKER AT LECTURE SERIES

U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer of Oregon, a chief advocate of livable communities, will be the presenter at the next Designing a 21st Century City Lecture Series presentation. The lecture series is sponsored by the City of Raleigh and WakeUP Wake County.

The event will be held on Jan. 19 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in The Stockroom at 230, located at 230 Fayetteville St. in Downtown Raleigh. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Mr. Blumenauer will speak on "Lessons in Livability for 21st Century Cities." He is chair of the congressional Livable Communities Task Force. As mayor of Portland, Ore., he guided the city through dynamic change to introduce multi-modal public transportation and promote walkable communities. In Congress, Mr. Blumenauer has focused on transportation, energy independence and budget issues.

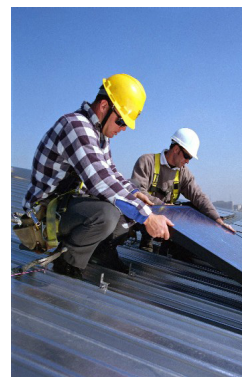
U.S. Rep. David Price of Raleigh will introduce Mr. Blumenauer at the lecture series presentation. There will be a question-and-answer session following Mr. Blumenauer's presentation.

For more information, contact Trisha Hasch with the City of Raleigh Planning Department at 807-8480

SOLAR ARRAY AT NEUSE RIVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT ENERGIZED

The 1.3 megawatt solar voltaic array at the City of Raleigh's Neuse River Wastewater Treatment Plant was energized on the afternoon of Dec. 22.

The 10-acre site is located at the intersection of Battlebridge Road and Brownfield Road. The arrangement between the City of Raleigh, Progress Energy Carolinas, Southern Energy Management, and NxGen Power reaffirms the City's commitment to being a leader in the community in sustainability.



Under the terms of the lease agreement, approved by the City Council, NxGen Power of Charlotte will own and operate the array and sell the output to Progress Energy Carolinas for distribution to its customers. No City capital investment was required for this project. Southern Energy Management of Morrisville designed, engineered and constructed the project.

According to NxGen Power, the project is the largest utility-scale solar power project located on local government property in the state. Michael Byrnes, president and chief executive officer of NxGen Power, said, "The milestone is a culmination of a lot of hard work and perseverance by NxGen Power, Southern Energy Management, the City of Raleigh and Progress Energy. It represents a great achievement in building the energy economy in North Carolina.

The solar photovoltaic array is expected to generate approximately 1.7 million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year, reducing carbon dioxide emissions by more than 1,300 tons annually. This is equivalent to the carbon dioxide emissions from the use of about 140,000 gallons of gasoline.

In 2008, Raleigh's Public Utilities Department started investigating solar photovoltaic generation and determined the Neuse River Wastewater Treatment Plant site was a potential location for an array. This was done with the assistance of Mike Nicklas of Innovative Design, an internationally known and environmentally sensitive architectural firm based in Raleigh and the winner of the City's 2009 Pioneering Environmental Award.

The City invited several experienced solar power developers to provide a project bid in response to Progress Energy Carolinas' request for renewable energy proposals. The company's request was designed to meet the requirements of North Carolina's Renewable Energy and Efficiency Portfolio Standard, passed in 2007. After an evaluation process, Progress Energy Carolinas accepted NxGen Power's and Southern Energy Management's proposal.

About Progress Energy:

Progress Energy, headquartered in Raleigh, is a Fortune 500 energy company with more than 22,000 megawatts of generation capacity and approximately \$10 billion in annual revenues. Progress Energy includes two major electric utilities that serve about 3.1 million customers in the Carolinas and Florida. The company has earned the Edison Electric Institute's Edison Award, the industry's highest honor, in recognition of its operational excellence, and was the first utility to receive the prestigious J.D. Power and Associates Founder's Award for customer service. The company is pursuing a balanced strategy for a secure energy future, which includes aggressive energy-efficiency programs, investments in renewable energy technologies and a state-of-the-art electricity system. Progress Energy celebrated a century of service in 2008. Visit the company's website at www.progress-energy.com.

About NxGen Power:

NxGen Power, LLC is a developer and operator of renewable energy facilities. NxGen Power uses strategic partnerships and

institutional investors to help utility, government, school and commercial customers meet their renewable energy goals without the upfront cost. The company works to educate and to provide customers the opportunity to harness the power of the sun through the use of solar energy and other innovative technologies. NxGen Power is changing the dynamic of energy use by building clean, sustainable, distributed generation facilities and producing power where the power is being used. The company is headquartered in Charlotte. For more information, visit www.nxgenpower.com.

About Southern Energy Management

Southern Energy Management is a North Carolina-based sustainable energy company offering energy efficiency, green building and turn-key solar services for homeowners, builders, companies, government and military clients across the country. A certified B Corp, Southern Energy Management's mission is to have a measurable impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change, and to build a sustainable triple-bottom-line company. Southern Energy Management was founded in a living room in Raleigh in 2001, and now employs a team of more than 100 sustainable energy professionals. SEM is consistently recognized as an industry leader both locally and nationally, and is among a small handful of companies in the U.S. to earn the National Energy Star Partner of the Year award five times (in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 & 2011).

Southern Energy Management received the City of Raleigh 2011 Environmental Stewardship Award and the 2010 Green Jobs Award from SJF Institute & Green For All. For more information, visit www.southern-energy.com.

Sustainability is one of the City of Raleigh's five strategic themes. It is defined as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The City of Raleigh sustainability initiatives include:

- Participating in Project Get Ready to prepare the Capital City for the availability of electric plug-in and hybrid electric vehicles;
- The creation of a citizens Environmental Advisory Board;
- Adopted a fossil fuel reduction goal;
- Enacted a standard for energy efficiency using the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating for all City-owned buildings. Construction and additions of at least 10,000 square feet should achieve silver-level certification of the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED rating system.; and,
- Endorsed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement to develop a greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy for the City.

There are many sustainability initiatives on-going in the City including installation of LED lighting, greening the City's vehicle fleet, supporting the creation of green jobs, a teleworking program, renewable energy projects, rainwater harvesting, water reuse, tiered-water rates, sustainable purchasing policies, employee health and wellness programs, innovative financing strategies, and public-private collaborations.

CITY OF RALEIGH'S OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY OFFERING FREE SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING COURSE

The City of Raleigh's Office of Sustainability is partnering with Wake Technical Community College to offer a free Sustainable Landscaping course.

The three-day course will run Jan. 10 to Jan.12 at the Walnut Creek Wetland Center, 950 Peterson Street. The sustainable landscaping course is a continuation of the City's Green Building Training Series. The series is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, commonly referred to as the "stimulus package."

The course provides training for local landscaping and landscape design professionals to become proficient in sustainable landscaping practices, prioritizing a variety of water resource conservation and onsite stormwater management methods. Sustainable landscaping includes numerous practices addressing environmental issues related to the design, construction, implementation, and management of residential and commercial landscapes.

To be eligible for the program, participants must provide proof that they live, work, or do business within the city of Raleigh. There is a \$25 refundable seat reservation deposit for the course. The \$25 will be returned upon course completion.

For more information about the Green Building Training Program, including scheduling information and registration forms contact Lynn Graham, programs manager of the Office of Sustainability, 919-996-3840 or visit the City of Raleigh website at <http://www.raleighnc.gov/sustainableraleigh>.

CITY OF RALEIGH'S ANNUAL SMALL BUSINESS EXPO SET FOR JAN. 25 AT SOUTHEAST RALEIGH HIGH SCHOOL

The City of Raleigh's 14th annual expo for small disadvantaged minority- and women-owned businesses will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 25 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Southeast Raleigh High School, 2600 Rock Quarry Road. The expo is free.

The expo is held annually to provide small disadvantaged minority- and women-owned businesses with an opportunity to talk one-on-one with purchasing and acquisition representatives from participating entities. These include the City of Raleigh, Wake County, Wake Tech Community College, Wake County Public School System, the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the State Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses. The representatives also will share information with small businesses about upcoming projects for 2012.



To RSVP for the event, email maria.a.torres@raleighnc.gov or phone 996-4271 or 996-3840. RSVPs are due by Jan. 18. If weather conditions are adverse on the day of the expo, contact the City of Raleigh at 996-3840.

COUNCIL FORWARDS JONES FRANKLIN ROAD STUDY TO JANUARY 17 JOINT MEETING

Raleigh City Council on Dec. 6 voted unanimously to accept the report and recommendations of the City of Raleigh Planning staff's study of the Jones Franklin area, Jones Franklin Road, Western Boulevard, and Hillsborough Street intersections. Council also forwarded the study, which includes a recommendation for future land uses within the study boundaries, to the Jan. 17, 2012 joint meeting of Council and the City of Raleigh Planning Commission.

The study provided detailed information and solutions to guide the future physical and regulatory characteristics and a land-use classification to the Jones Franklin Road area. The area currently has no classification in the 2030 Comprehensive plan and is designated as white space on the Future Land Use Map.

City staff from the City Planning Department and other City departments made recommendations after they had sought public input through presentations to the West Citizens Advisory Council; focus group meetings with residents and property owners; questionnaires, surveys, periodic community update letters, a visioning session a design workshop and visual preference surveys. Additionally, a draft report was available for public review from Nov. 11 through Dec. 2.

For more information, visit www.raleighnc.gov and enter "Franklin Road Study" in the What Are You Looking For search window.

CITY OF RALEIGH OFFERS LEADERSHIP CLASSES

Registration is now available for the spring 2012 session of Citizens Leadership Academy, a series of classes sponsored by the City of Raleigh Community Services Department to help develop community leaders.

The classes will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays starting March 1, at the City of Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 West Hargett Street. The session will consist of three modules with four classes each. Residents can sign up for one, two or all three modules.

The modules include:

- **Module 1**, Leadership Development, March 1 to March 22. Participants will learn about personal leadership styles, group dynamics, leading from the middle and crucial conversations.
- **Module 2**, Communication Dynamics, March 29 to April 26. This module will cover communication styles, outreach, group facilitation and conflict resolution.
- **Module 3**, Asset-Based Community Development, May 3 to May 24. Participants will learn about a system of neighborhood organization that emphasizes the skills and strengths of individuals and communities.

Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion at the end of each module. Those who complete all three modules will receive the Academy Leadership Plaque. The Citizens Leadership Academy is offered twice a year in the spring and fall. Area residents can complete the three modules over the course of a year.

To encourage discussion and interaction with class leaders, classes are limited to 25 participants. Residents of the City of Raleigh and its extraterritorial jurisdiction receive priority for admission and may attend free of charge. Residents of other areas of Wake County will be admitted on a space-available basis for a fee of \$40 per module or \$110 for all three modules.

To apply online, go to www.surveymonkey.com/citizensleadershipacademy. For an application to fill out and submit by fax or mail, go to www.raleighnc.gov and search for "Citizens Leadership Academy."

For more information, call Community Specialist Kevin Smith at 996-5716 or email kevin.smith@raleighnc.gov.

INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC MEETING ON HISTORIC OVERLAY DISTRICT SET FOR JANUARY 18

The Raleigh Historic Development Commission will hold an additional informational public meeting on the evening of January 18 to discuss a proposed rezoning case in the South Person and South Blount streets area. The location and time for the meeting have not been established.

The Historic Development Commission has recommended applying Historic Overlay District zoning to properties located in the proposed district and the Planning Commission has also recommended approving the rezoning. The properties, zoned Residential Business with Downtown Overlay District, Residential Business District, Neighborhood Business, Neighborhood Business with Downtown Overlay District, and Business with Downtown Overlay District, would retain base zoning classifications.

Once approved, the special character of the district will be maintained through a design review process administered by the Raleigh Historic Development Commission. Exterior changes to properties would require an approved Certificate of Appropriateness

prior to beginning work. Currently, the City recognizes five local historic overlay districts: Blount Street, Boylan Heights, Capitol Square, Moore Square, and Oakwood.

The Council will revisit the issue following the informational hearing at its Feb. 7 meeting.

CITY OF RALEIGH COLLECTING CHRISTMAS TREES WITH WEEKLY YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department will collect Christmas trees with the weekly yard waste collection.

Residents are asked to place the trees at the curb on the regular collection day. Please make sure that all lights and ornaments have been removed before disposing of the tree. Apartment complexes may set up one common area for disposal and then call Solid Waste Services at 996-6890 for collection.

A resident may determine the collection day in their area by visiting the City of Raleigh website at www.raleighnc.gov and entering "Find My Service Day" in the search box. For more information, contact the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department at 996-6890.

CITY COLLECTING USED GREASE, COOKING OIL

Looking for a way to get rid of all that cooking oil and grease left over from the holidays? You can take advantage of the City of Raleigh's curbside grease collection program.



For the third consecutive year, the City of Raleigh is collecting used grease and oils from residences and places of worship in the Capital City during the holiday season. To arrange for curbside collection of these materials, call the City's Solid Waste Services Department at 996-6890. The department is closed on Thursday for the Thanksgiving holiday but is open the rest of this week including Friday.

The City of Raleigh is collecting the unwanted grease or cooking oil at no charge. The collected grease is converted to biofuels by Triangle Biofuels Industries.

The goal of the curbside grease collection program is to protect the environment by keeping cooking grease out of the City's sewer system and preventing sewer overflows. In order to be collected, the oil must be placed in a sealable and preferably clear plastic container marked as "used cooking oil." The curbside grease collection program ends on Jan. 13.

FOLLOW THE CITY OF RALEIGH ON TWITTER

Looking for the most up-to-date information from the City of Raleigh? Follow your local government via Twitter!

Twitter is a free service that allows you to “follow” people or subjects via short, frequent updates. The City of Raleigh now offers Twitter users the opportunity to stay informed about the latest news and breaking events. To join in, visit www.twitter.com and get started with a few simple steps. Once you have an active account, you can elect to “follow” any of the City’s twitter accounts.

Currently, the City maintains the following accounts:

RaleighGov - This feed features links to any news releases and alerts issued by the City of Raleigh;

RaleighBPAC – This feed features information from the City of Raleigh Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

RaleighParks – This feed features any news and information related to the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department;

RalCommServices – City of Raleigh Community Services Department

CORTraffic – This feed features scheduled road closings due to construction or road races in the City of Raleigh; and,

RW911 – this feed features traffic accidents reported to the Emergency Communications Center.

RaleighGoGreen - this feed features news and information from the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department Recycling program

To follow any of these, simply choose “Find People” from your Twitter home page and type in the account name you are interested in and then click “follow.” It’s that easy.

CITY OF RALEIGH ON FACEBOOK

City of Raleigh - The main City of Raleigh Facebook page keeps you informed about events, holidays and other news items.

City of Raleigh Planning and Development - The Raleigh Planning and Development page provides guidance for the growth, preservation and development of the City of Raleigh in order to maintain a community of lasting value.

Community Services Department - The Community Services Department Facebook page posts a variety of community and neighborhood news, stories, awards, classes and Citizen Advisory Council information.

Emergency Communications - The Raleigh-Wake County 911 Facebook page posts information on job openings, public engagements and other 911 related happenings.

Raleigh Police Department - The Raleigh Police Department Facebook page focuses on public safety. Posts concerning crime alerts, missing people, requests for citizen assistance and more.

TRAFFIC ALERTS

FOR MORE CITY OF RALEIGH NEWS AND UPDATES ON ROAD CLOSURES, PARADES AND ROAD RACES, VISIT THE CITY’S WEBSITE AT WWW.RALEIGHNC.GOV

ROAD RACES

January 21 Traffic will be affected near Brier Creek from 8:30 a.m. until 10 a.m. for a road race. Click here for more information.

February 4 Traffic will be affected downtown for the annual Krispy Kreme Challenge. Click here for more information.

February 11 Traffic will be affected near Meridien Drive for a road race from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. Click here for more information.

February 12 Traffic will be affected downtown for a road race from 1 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Click here for a map of the race.

March 3 Traffic will be affected from 8:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. near Fletcher Park for a road race. Click here for a map of the race.

STREET CLOSINGS

April 28 The service road parallel to Glenwood Avenue from Holly Ridge Road to Oak Park Road will be closed from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m.



For information on downtown events visit the Downtown Raleigh Alliance website at www.godowntownraleigh.com and the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau at www.visitraleigh.com.

NewsCOR is also available electronically. Please contact the City of Raleigh Public Affairs Department at 996-3100 if you would prefer to receive NewsCOR by email.